Remarks

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed November 18, 2002 in connection with the above-identified patent application. In that Action, claims 1-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,055,515 to Consentino, et al.

Apparently, the Examiner interpreted the pending claims in the instant application to include teachings of the multi-path browsing system found in the Consentino, et al. '515 patent. Particularly, in her remarks, the Examiner expressly took the position that "Consentino, et al. expressly disclose a database system having means and methods (multiple-navigation path browsing utility) to provide information about a data source (indications of ancestors such as immediate parents) in a tree view when the target object derived from the data source is selected using the graphical user interface of the browser, wherein, the target object (or a successor) is apparently derived from its source objects (ancestors)."

Applicant has amended each of the independent claims to clarify the relationship between a target object, a source from which the target object was derived, and a transformation performed on contents of the source. The present application is directed to a data navigation system and method employing a data transformation lineage model. As an example, as recited in independent claim 1, information is provided about a source from which the target object was derived via a transformation performed on contents of the source.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Consentino, et al. patent does not teach, suggest, or fairly disclose any aspects of a transformation lineage model and, more particularly, does not suggest methods, articles of manufacture, or apparatus for navigating data in the manner recited in the pending claims as amended herein.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are patentably distinct and unobvious over the reference of record.

Allowance of all pending claims and early notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Marked-Up Version of the Amended Claims, Showing Changes Made

MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS, SHOWING CHANGES

February 13, 2003

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 7, 13, 19, 27, and 28 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of navigating data stored on a data storage device connected to a computer, comprising the steps of:

in response to receiving user input, selecting a target object in an information catalog; and

providing information about a source from which the target object was derived via a transformation performed on contents of said source.

7. (Amended) An apparatus for navigating data, comprising:

a computer having a memory and a data storage device coupled thereto that stores the data;

one or more computer programs, performed by the computer, for, in response to receiving user input, selecting a target object in an information catalog and providing information about a source from which the target object was derived via a transformation performed on contents of said source.

13. (Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps for navigating data stored on a data storage device, the method comprising[the steps of]:

in response to receiving user input, selecting a target object in an information catalog, the target object being derived by a transformation performed on contents of a source of data; and

providing information about [a] the source from which the target object was derived.

19. (Twice Amended) A method of navigating data in a data warehouse stored in a data storage device connected to a computer, comprising:

receiving user input selecting a target object, said target object derived from [one or more sources of data via] one or more transformations performed on [said] contents of one or more sources of data;

selecting the target object in response to receiving said user input; and

providing information about at least one of said one or more sources of data.

27. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable medium having contents for causing a computer-based information handling system to perform steps for navigating data in a data warehouse stored in a data storage device connected to a computer-based information handling system, the steps comprising:

receiving user input selecting a target object, said target object derived [from one or more sources of data via] by one or more transformations performed on [said] contents of one or more sources of data;

selecting the target object in response to receiving said user input; and

providing information about at least one of said one or more sources of data.

28. (Amended) A system for navigating data in a data warehouse stored in a data storage device connected to a computer-based information handling system, comprising:

a plurality of objects, including a target object, said target object derived via one or more transformations [from] performed on contents of one or more sources of data;

a transformation lineage system which stores transformation lineage information for the target object, said transformation lineage information associating the target object with said one or more transformations and identifying said one or more data sources;

a user interface for receiving user input for selecting a selected one of said plurality of objects; and

said user interface configured to display said transformation lineage information in response to receiving user input selecting said target object.